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GENERAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 15, 2011 8:30 A.M.
Champ Hall Conference Room

Present: Christie Fox, Honors; Larry Smith, Provost's Office; Brian McCuskey, English; Dick Mueller, Science; Kathy Chudoba, Business; Norm Jones, Chair; Erik Mikkelsen, ASUSU President; John Mortensen, Registrar's Office; Charlie Huenemann, HASS; Brock Dethier, HASS; Vince Lafferty, RCDE; Susan Neel, USU Eastern; Michele Hillard, Secretary; Craig Petersen, American Institutions; Dan Coster, Quantitative Intensive; Rhonda Miller, Communications; Roberta Herzberg, Social Sciences; Carolyn Cárdenas, Creative Arts; Wendy Holliday, Library; Bruce Saperston, Arts; Stephanie Hamblin, University Advising; Teryl Roper, Agriculture; Karen Mock, Natural Resources

Absent: Ryan Dupont, Life & Physical Sciences Literacy/Intensive; Wynn Walker, Engineering

Call to Order – Norm Jones

Approval of Minutes – Dan Coster moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2011 meeting. Erik Mikkelsen seconded; motion carried.

Course Approvals

ARTH 4725 (CI) – APPROVED - via electronic vote 10/28/2011

ARTH 4710 (CI) - APPROVED - via electronic vote 10/28/2011

ARTH 4520 (CI) – PENDING – Still awaiting revisions

ARTH 3840 (CI) – PENDING - Still awaiting revisions

AV 2720 (CI) – DENIED via electronic vote 10/28/2011. CI courses need to be upper-division courses.

Course Removals

N/A

Syllabi Approvals

HONR 3030 (DSS) Christie Fox - APPROVED - Roberta Herzberg moved to approve; seconded by Carolyn Cárdenas

Business

Proposed 6 credit USU 1370 – Right now USU integrated courses are designated by discipline. The proposal has been brought forward to include multiple disciplines within these courses. It would be beneficial for the students to take an idea and look at it from various perspectives. Instructors would be allowed to bring field work or undergraduate research into these disciplines and we should look at different ways of assembling the package. The ASUSU President anticipates that this would be easily accepted by the students. This combining of disciplines will help develop problem solving skills and critical thinking in the students. There should not be many issues, as other universities already have these courses firmly entrenched in their curriculum. Unanimous

decision was made to move forward with this. The question was asked if the six hours could be offered through 2 courses in combination, or if that would cause a scheduling problem. We also need to be aware of how departments might look at this for scheduling. Next step is to set up a subcommittee to flesh out the mechanical issues. Individuals who volunteered to serve on this committee are:

Dick Mueller
Wendy Holliday
Carolyn Cardenas
Jessica Hansen
Christie Fox – Chair
Roberta Herzberg

The committee will come back to the next meeting with updates/direction.

CI Requirements - Rhonda Miller proposed changing the CI requirement from "2 courses" to "6 credits" for communicative intensive courses. There was a discussion of whether we should define a minimum amount of credits vs. a minimum number of courses. As of now there are 21-two credit; 4-one credit; and 1 five-variable credit courses that would not meet the 6 hour rule if it was made. Variable credits are the ones that pose the biggest problem. After a lively discussion, it was agreed that the CI committee will investigate further and come back with more information and suggestions.

QI Courses – There simply aren't enough QI courses. Seats are available in QI but not in courses that the average student could take. There needs to be more general QI courses that the average student could take. Roberta Herzberg will go to her department head and dean to discuss this issue. We will revisit this topic in January or February to see what kind of progress can be made in QI courses.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:30 am

Next Meeting – December 13, 2011 @ 8:30 a.m. in Champ Hall